

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 9 are amended. Claims 15-18 are cancelled. New claim 19 is added. Upon entry of the amendment, claim 1 with claims 2-9 and 19 depending therefrom, and claim 10 with claims 11-14 depending therefrom, are presented for reconsideration by the Examiner.

Claims 1-4 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,027,260 to Lyons et al (hereinafter Lyons). The Examiner identifies electronics enclosures 70 and 80 and a top panel 90 supported by the enclosures.

As an initial matter, the items identified by the Examiner are a rotatable warning beacon unit 70 and a reflector 80 which cannot be characterized as electronics enclosures. Further, the rotatable warning beacon unit 70, as clearly shown in Figures 1, 7 and 8, includes a rotating reflector 130 projecting upwardly from the assembly. To function, this reflector 130 must be free to rotate and cannot serve as a support member for the top panel. This being so, Lyons does not disclose, teach or suggest supporting the top panel from the rotatable warning beacon unit 70. The further "electronics enclosure" reflector 80 identified by the Examiner is not disclosed, taught or suggested as supporting the top cover 90 of the light bar assembly.

Lyons at column 5, lines 32-42 describes the manner by which the top cover 90 is supported by dividers 56 and 57.

In sum, Lyons does not disclose, teach or suggest "a top panel having front and rear elongated slots and supported by said enclosures generally parallel to said base" as recited in claim 1. The light bar assembly of claim 1 is patentable over the teachings of Lyons.

Claims 2-9 and 19 depend from claim 1 and are patentable for at least the reasons stated in support of claim 1. The Examiner indicated that claims 5-8 recite patentable subject matter. Claims 5-8 are patentable for at least this additional reason.

Claim 10 recites in pertinent part the steps of "securing said at least one electronics enclosure to said extruded base; securing said top plate to said at least one electronics enclosure; and securing said lighting components between said extruded base and said top plate, whereby said electronics enclosure serves as a structural support between said base and said top plate and determines a distance between said base and said top plate." As previously discussed, Lyons discloses that its top cover 90 rests on the top edge of dividers 56 and 57 (see Lyons column 5, lines 31-41). Lyons does not disclose, teach or suggest the recitations of claim 10. Claim 10 is patentable over the teachings of Lyons.

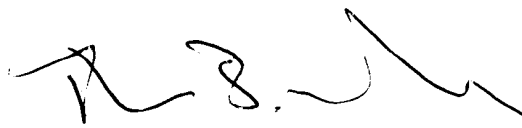
Claims 11-14 depend directly from claim 10 and are patentable for at least the reasons stated in support of claim 10. The Examiner indicated that claims 11 and 12 recite patentable subject matter. Claims 11 and 12 are patentable for at least this additional reason.

It is important to note that while Lyons teaches rotating beacon units 70 including control circuits 150 beneath a beacon cover 72, Lyons does not disclose, teach or suggest independent electronics enclosures. Therefore, it is quite impossible for Lyons to disclose, teach or suggest the use of such electronics enclosures as a structural member of a light bar. The recitations of claims 1 and 10 are neither anticipated nor obvious in view of Lyons. Claims 1 and 10 are patentable over Lyons.

For all the foregoing reasons Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 1-14 and 19.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TJ Menard', written over a horizontal line.

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